

**Bank of Ireland (the “Bank”)
High Court approval of stock premium reduction
6 December 2010**

Further to Resolution 8 passed at the Extraordinary General Court of the Bank held on 19 May 2010, the High Court of Ireland has approved the reduction of capital application by the Bank to cancel €0.8 billion of the stock premium of the Bank with the reserve resulting from the cancellation to be treated as distributable reserves. The implementation of the Court Order has no impact on the Group’s capital ratios. The Companies Registration Office of Ireland has today issued a certificate of registration of the Court Order, effective from 1 December 2010.

Ends.

For further information please contact:

John O'Donovan
Group Chief Financial
Officer
Tel: +353 76 623 4703

Andrew Keating
Director of Group Finance
Tel: + 353 1 637 8141

Tony Joyce
Head of Group Investor
Relations
Tel: + 353 76 623 4729

Dan Loughrey
Head of Group
Communications
Tel: + 353 76 623 4770